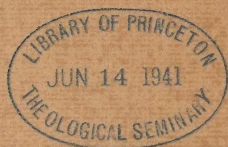


**INVENTORY OF
CHURCH ARCHIVES
OF MICHIGAN**

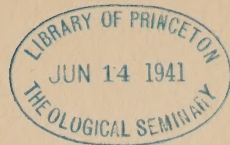
**AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MICHIGAN CONFERENCE**

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THE MICHIGAN HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY



BX8441
.M6H67



INVENTORY OF THE CHURCH ARCHIVES
OF MICHIGAN

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

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Historical records survey, Mich.

Prepared by

The Historical Records Survey Program
Division of Professional and Service Projects
Work Projects Administration

Michigan State Administrative Board - Sponsor
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Detroit, Michigan
The Michigan Historical Records Survey Project
September 1940

The Historical Records Survey Program

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George W. Hubley, Jr., Regional Supervisor
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Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner
Alma Kerr, Chief Regional Supervisor
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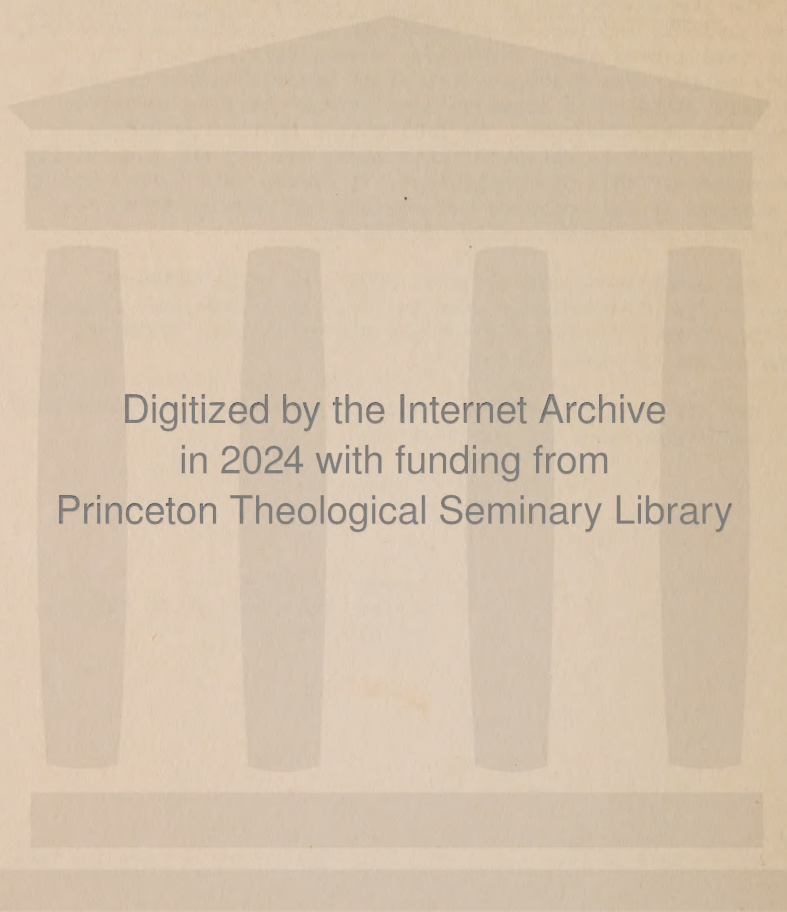
FOREWORD

The African Methodist Episcopal Church, Michigan Conference is an accurate and important digest of our churches and missions, which have served their respective communities for more than eighty years. The Michigan Historical Records Survey has been unusually diligent in locating data to make this presentation factual in every respect. We feel that a debt of gratitude is due to the staff in charge of this work, and for the painstaking performance of this difficult task. I stress this point because the records of our churches are meager, and persons to be contacted were not always easily accessible.

The material herein outlined should be of inestimable value to all persons interested in securing information concerning the African Methodist Episcopal Church in this district, known as the Michigan Conference.

May all those persons who contributed to this excellent work feel amply repaid by its publication.

George W. Baber
Pastor, Ebenezer A.M.E. Church,
Detroit, Michigan



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PREFACE

The Inventory of the Church Archives of Michigan: African Methodist Episcopal Church, Michigan Conference is one of a Nation-wide series of inventories of ecclesiastical archives being compiled by the Historical Records Survey. The inventory has been undertaken as a service to the clergy and officers of religious bodies, to students of social and religious history, and also to laymen interested in the growth and development of religious bodies in this country.

This inventory of the archives of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is a compilation establishing the identity and location of churches, institutions, and organizations within the boundaries of the Michigan Conference, and describing their archives. In determining the identity of the churches and other organizations we have accepted the status and affiliations claimed by responsible officials in charge. The framework of presentation is that of the United States Census of Religious Bodies. To this we have added local history of sufficient importance to warrant inclusion in this study.

Acknowledgment of our appreciation is made to the clergy, officials and laymen who have given us their cooperation and assistance, but for lack of space we are unable to mention them personally.

Collection of data in the field was accomplished by project workers of the Michigan Historical Records Survey, and was collated by Edgar Sipe and Adolph Maurice under the supervision of Basil Ayres, Assistant Project Supervisor. Editorial consultation was given by Dr. Bernhard A. Uhlendorf, Assistant Project Supervisor.

This inventory has been approved by the Washington Office of Historical Records Survey Projects. We have profited greatly by the criticism and advice of Arnett G. Lindsay, specialist in Negro history, and Donald A. Thompson, Assistant Archivist.

STUART PORTNER
State Project Supervisor
Michigan Historical Records Survey

September 12, 1940

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HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

The African Methodist Episcopal Church is an outgrowth of the movement on the part of the Negro people, which began in the last quarter of the eighteenth century, to create separate Negro denominations in the United States. One of the founders of this movement, Richard Allen, was a freed slave and an ardent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.¹ Not content with the treatment of Negroes by members of the church, he organized the first class for colored people in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1786. During the next year, Mr. Allen withdrew, as a member, from St. George's Church, and together with Absalom Jones founded the Free African Society. The preamble and articles of the society describe the purpose of the organization thus: "Whereas, Absalom Jones and Richard Allen, two men of the African race, who, for their religious life and conversation have obtained a good report among men, these persons from a love for the people of their complexion whom they beheld with sorrow, and because of their irreligious and uncivilized state, often communed together upon this painful and important subject in order to form some kind of religious society, but there being too few to be found under the like concern, and these who differed in their religious sentiments. With these circumstances they labored for some time, till it was proposed, after a serious communication of sentiments, that a society should be formed without regard to religious tenets, provided that the persons lived an orderly and sober life, in order to support one another in sickness, and for the benefit of their widows and fatherless children." The charter members of the Society included Absalom Jones, Richard Allen, Samuel Boston, Joseph Johnson, Cato Freeman, Caesar Cranchell, James Potter, and William White.²

In 1791, Mr. Allen purchased a lot for a church at Sixth and Pine Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and in 1794, sold the lot to the Bethel Church to erect the first church known as the "Blacksmith Shop Church," which was dedicated by Bishop Francis Asbury, the first Methodist bishop in the United States. The Bethel Church of Philadelphia is considered the mother church of all the African Methodist

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1. In 1767 Richard Allen, and his father, mother, and three other children, were sold as slaves by Benjamin Chew of Philadelphia, to Mr. Stackley of Delaware. Ten years later, "his master became worried in conscience and agreed to Allen brothers to purchase freedom for \$200.00 in continental currency of 60 lbs. in gold and silver." See: Rev. William H. Peck, "Richard Allen" in "A Manual of the A. M. E. Church," typescript, kept in Bethel Church, 585 Frederick Ave., Detroit.
 2. Rev. William H. Peck, "A Manual of the A. M. E. Church," typescript in Bethel Church.

Episcopal churches in this country.¹ Mr. Allen was ordained deacon in 1799 by Bishop Asbury.² He was the first Negro preacher to be ordained by the Methodist Episcopal Church and in 1816 he was elected as bishop, serving in that capacity until his death, March 26, 1831.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in 1816 in Philadelphia, and the first church was organized on April 9-11 of the same year. A preliminary convention, having seventeen delegates representing congregations in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Attleborough, Pa. and Salem, N.J. was held a year later. The first session of the conference was held in Baltimore, in the month of April. Later, a session was held in Philadelphia, in May of the same year.³ At this convention it was resolved: "That the people of Philadelphia, Baltimore, and all other places who should unite with them, should become one body under the name and style of the African Methodist Episcopal Church."⁴ The Articles of Incorporation were first filed in May 1900. The twelve elected trustees consisted of four bishops, four ministers, and four laymen.

The Convention adopted the Book of Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, rejecting however, the articles relating to the office of presiding eldership. Later, they adopted this office in their polity and it remains as one of their executive offices to this day. They also used the hymnal of the Methodist Episcopal Church until 1826, when they prepared one of their own.

At the time of the convention, there were about three thousand members belonging to the various churches represented. The growth of the new church was very rapid, though confined to the northern states. It was after the Civil War, that the membership increased greatly in the South. By 1866, there were 10 annual conferences, 185 pastors, 206 churches and 50,000 members.⁵

The first General Conference of the A. M. E. Church met at Philadelphia on July 9, 1820. Reverend Morris Brown was elected as bishop-assistant to Bishop Allen at the General Conference of 1828.

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1. Year Book of Negro Churches, Wilberforce, Ohio, Wilberforce University, 1936, p. 1; New Handbook of All Denominations, Nashville, Tenn., Cokesburg Press, 1932, p. 196.
 2. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Religious Bodies: 1926, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1929, pp. 995-1005.
 3. Year Book of Negro Churches, p. 1.
 4. The Encyclopedia Americana, vol. 1, pp. 226-227.
 5. Loc. cit.

Beginning of A. M. E. Church in Michigan

Michigan witnessed the beginning of the Negro church movement in 1839, when the Colored Methodist Society was organized in Detroit. From this society emanated in 1841, the first African Methodist Episcopal church in the State, the Bethel Church.¹ The first meetings were held in an old building, located on Cadillac Square, known as Military Hall. This building belonged to the city and was 'granted' by the Common Council to the colored Methodist Church and removed to the north side of Congress Street near Woodward Avenue. Later, it was removed again to Croghan Street near the northwest corner of Hastings Street. The Society remained there for about two years, and on May 10, 1841, was reorganized under the direct control of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The building was then moved to Fort Street west of Beaubien Street, where it was formally dedicated on June 14, 1842; it was used until the brick church on the south side of Lafayette Street was completed and dedicated on September 19, 1847. This church is now called Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, and is located on the corner of Frederick and St. Antoine Streets.²

In 1849, the second A. M. E. church in the State, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, was organized at Calvin Center, Cass County;³ and in 1855, Brown Chapel was organized in Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County.⁴ Another church, Mt. Zion, was established the same year, at Battle Creek.⁵

In 1858, a group of Negro people met at Adrian, Lenawee County, in the home of Henry Russel, and organized the Bethel Church.⁶ However, a church building was not erected until 1877; in the meantime the congregation continuing to meet in the homes of members. The church was remodeled in 1939. The George R. Collins Church of Lansing was organized in 1862, and first services were held there in the Free Will Baptist Church. Later, the congregation purchased a dwelling house and moved it to the present site, on Pine Street, worshipping there until 1880, when their present church was completed.⁷

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1. Entry 4.
 2. Sarah Grindley, comp., "The Beginning of Protestant Churches in Detroit," p. 18, Burton Collection, Detroit Public Library.
 3. Entry 5.
 4. Entry 6.
 5. Entry 7.
 6. Entry 8.
 7. Entry 10.

A community church, later to be known as Bethel Church, was organized at Ann Arbor in 1863,¹ two years later (1865), the Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized at Jackson.² In 1867, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Saginaw was founded.³ Another African Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1874, at Grand Rapids.⁴

Notwithstanding the many difficulties which they had to meet and the lack of cooperation on the part of some communities, the Negroes succeeded in organizing approximately 43 A. M. E. churches in Michigan, and a home for aged colored people, at Jackson. This home is named in honor of Bishop James A. Handy, who contributed the first \$500.00 toward the building of the institution. The home is to serve any colored person, irrespective of the denomination to which he belongs.

The founders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church laid much stress for the need of education, mainly among the youth. They established the Wilberforce University, considered the oldest Negro institution of higher learning in the world, prior to the War of the Rebellion, under the leadership of Bishop Daniel A. Payne, who was a refugee from South Carolina. Subsequently, colleges were established in various southern states, and at the present time nine colleges function in as many states.⁵

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1. Entry 11.
 2. Entry 12.
 3. Entry 13.
 4. Entry 15.
 5. Year Book, pp. 42-43.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1828--.
Chief Secretary, George T. Sims, 807 Madison St.,
Montgomery, Ala.

Organized 1828. The General Conference is the supreme governing body. It is composed of all the bishops, General Conference officers, college and university presidents and deans of the theological schools; one lay and one ministerial delegate for each 30 members of Annual Conference. Departments and officers: Missionary Departments, L.L. Berry, 112 West 120th St., New York City; Book Concern, W.K. Hopes, 716 S. 19th St., Philadelphia, Pa.; Department of Religious Education, E.A. Adams, 2113 Lady St., Columbia, S.C.; Sunday School, Prof. E.A. Selby, 716 S. 19th St., Philadelphia, Pa.; Financial Department, A.S. Jackson, 1541 14th St., N.W., Washington, D.C.; Church Extension, B.M. Hemmingway, 1535 14th St., N.W., Washington, D.C.; Editors Religious Literature, C.W. Abington, 716 S. 19th St., Philadelphia, Pa. Periodicals: Western Recorder, J.H. Wilson, 5213 Holmes Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.; Southern Christian Recorder, E.C. Hatcher, 513 W. 9th St., Little Rock, Ark.; Christian Recorder, G.A. Singelton, 716 S. 19th St., Philadelphia, Pa.; A. M. E. Review, Howard Gregg, 235 N. Farson St., Philadelphia, Pa. Allen Christian Endeavor League, S.S. Morris, Philadelphia, Pa. General Conference officers: Senior Bishop and Chairman of Bishops' Council, Bishop J.S. Flipper, 488 Houston St., Atlanta, Ga.; Secretary Bishops' Council, Bishop J.A. Gregg, 1150 Washington Blvd., Kansas City, Kan.; Chief Secretary, George T. Sims, 807 Madison St., Montgomery, Ala.

DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS

2. FOURTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT, 1887--, address of Presiding Bishop, 1150 Washington Blvd., Kansas City, Kan.

Organized 1887. The Episcopal District is made up of six Annual Conferences, namely, - Indiana, Illinois, Chicago, Northwestern, Michigan, and Ontario-Quebec. Each Annual Episcopal District Conference is under the direction of a supervising bishop, who is appointed by the General Conference. Officers of the Fourth Episcopal District Conference: Presiding Bishop, Rt. Rev. John A. Gregg, 1150 Washington Blvd., Kansas City, Kan.; presiding elders, Rev. W.C. Perry, 420 Mercer St., Windsor, Ont., Rev. R.F. Washington, 2968 Brush St., Detroit, Mich., Rev. D.A. Blake, 504 N. Fifth St., Ann Arbor, Mich., Rev. T.B. Stovall, 3741 Fourth Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., Rev. W.H. Ogleton, 4035 Calumet St., Chicago, Ill., Rev. Robert Thomas, 207 E. Fiftieth St., Chicago, Ill., Rev. B.U. Taylor, 5824 S. Parkway, Chicago, Ill., Rev. S.R. Maguinez, 4211 Calumet St., Chicago, Ill., Rev. J.P.Q. Wallace, 1943 Carrollton Ave., Indianapolis, Ind., Rev. J.E. Bradford, 2309 Spruce St., Terre Haute, Ind., Rev. C.E. Brooks, 610 E. Church St., Champlain, Ill., Rev. G.A. Brown, 1624 E. Capitol Ave., Springfield, Ill., Rev. A. Henry Attaway, 2613 Washington St., Upper Alton, Ill.

STATE ORGANIZATIONS

3. MICHIGAN CONFERENCE, 1886--,
Chief Secretary, Rev. A. Wayman Peterson,
108 Bond St., Benton Harbor, Mich,

Organized 1886 as a subdivision of the Fourth Episcopal District. It is the governing body of all A. M. E. churches in the State, in the field of religion and religious education. Meets annually and it is divided into two district conferences, namely, the Detroit District with Rev. R. Francis Washington, 2968 Brush Street, Detroit, as presiding elder and the South Detroit District with Rev. David Addison Blake Sr., 504 N. 5th Avenue, Ann Arbor, as presiding elder. Conference officary: Presiding Bishop, Rt. Rev. John A. Gregg, 1150 Washington Blvd., Kansas City, Kansas; Chief Secretary, Rev. A. Wayman Peterson, 108 Bond Street, Benton Harbor; Conference Treasurer, Rev. Lewis Pettiford, 107 Pine Street, Lansing. Financial Committee: Rev. W.E. Walker, chairman, 6620 Boxwood Avenue, Detroit; Rev. H.G. Simmons, Secretary, 215 Buffalo Street, Ypsilanti.

Records not available at this time; see A. Wayman Peterson.

CHURCHES

4. BETHEL CHURCH, 1841-- , 585 Frederick Ave.,
Detroit.

Established as Colored Methodist Society in 1839. Organized under present name, 1841. Services first held in Military Hall, Cadillac Square; subsequently removed building to Congress Street near Woodward Avenue; removed again to Croghan and Hastings Streets; finally to East Fort Street, 1841; remodeled and dedicated 1842; frame structure. Second church building, East Lafayette Street, dedicated 1847; brick structure. Third church building, Napoleon and Hastings Streets, dedicated 1889; brick structure. Present church building dedicated 1925; brick structure, semi-Gothic architecture. First settled clergyman, Rev. Robert Johnson, 1865-66. Present clergyman, Rev. William H. Peck.

Church minutes, 1912-- , 25 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1912-- , 2 vols. Financial records, 1912-- , 2 vols. Sunday School records, 1912-- , 2 vols. Records kept in church office. Records prior to 1912 could not be found.

5. BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1849-- ,
Calvin Center, Cassopolis P.O., Cass County.

Organized 1849. First church building, log structure. Present church building dedicated 1870; frame structure. Present clergyman, Rev. Thomas Calhoun. See: Anon. "Bethel A. M. E. Church," MS., in custody of Rosa Wilson, R.F.D. 3, Cassopolis.

Church minutes, 1870-1937, 1 vol., in custody of Tillie Christopher, R.F.D. 3, Cassopolis; 1937-- , 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1937-- , 1 vol., in custody of Rev. Thomas Calhoun, R.F.D. 3, Cassopolis. Financial records 1937-- , 1 vol., in custody of Marshal Mathews, R.F.D. 3, Cassopolis.

6. BROWN CHAPEL, 1855-- , Adams and Buffalo Sts.,
Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County.

Organized 1855. Services first held in homes of members, subsequently in a rented frame building, Michigan Avenue and Adams Street. First church building erected on present site, dedicated 1856; enlarged 1870; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1901; brick structure, semi-Gothic architecture. First settled clergyman, Rev. A.R. Green, 1854-56. Present clergyman, Rev. H.G. Simmons.

Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths; also minutes and financial records), 1893-1905, 1 vol., in custody of Mrs. James Kersey, First Ave., Ypsilanti.

7. MT. ZION CHURCH, 1855--, 336 W. Van Buren St.,
Battle Creek, Calhoun County.

Organized 1855. Services first held in homes of members. First church building dedicated 1857; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1867; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. T.W. Beck, 1855-60. Present clergyman, Rev. S.S. Harris.

Church records could not be found.

8. BETHEL CHURCH, 1858--, 322 E. Butler St., Adrian,
Lenawee County.

Organized 1858 in the home of Henry Russell. From 1858 to 1877 services were held in homes of members. First and present church building dedicated 1877; remodeled 1939; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. George E. Clark, 1858-60. Present clergyman, Rev. Joseph Allen Parker.

Church minutes, 1931--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1931--, 1 vol. Records kept in church study. Financial records, 1931--, 1 vol., in custody of treasurer, Mrs. Henry Meekins, 231 Henry St. Other records could not be found.

9. NEWMAN CHAPEL, 1861--, 16 Auburn St., Pontiac,
Oakland County.

Organized 1861. Services first held in private homes; subsequently in the basement of the old Methodist Episcopal Church on Perry Street, and in a building on Mt. Clemens Street. First church building dedicated 1873; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1930; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. J. Warren, 1873. Present (acting) clergyman, Rev. M.L. Spears.

Church minutes, 1933--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1933--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1933--, 1 vol. Records kept in church office. Other records could not be found.

10. GEORGE R. COLLINS CHURCH, 1862--, 109 N. Pine St.,
Lansing, Ingham County.

Organized 1862. Services first held in Free Will Baptist Church, Capitol and Kalamazoo Streets. Subsequently purchased private dwelling and removed same to present site. First and present church building dedicated 1880; brick structure, Gothic architecture. Additional building in rear used as a parsonage. First settled clergyman, Rev. W. Douglas, 1862-64. Present clergyman, Rev. Lewis Pettiford.

Church minutes, 1862--, 13 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, and deaths, 1862-79, 3 vols.; members 1862--, 1 vol.)

Financial records, 1862-- , 2 vols. Sunday School records, 1862-- , 3 vols. Records kept in church rectory.

11. BETHEL CHURCH, 1863-- , 634 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County.

Organized as a community church, 1863; changed to present denomination, 1865. Services first held in a private building on Fuller Street, now High Street; subsequently in a house, Fourth and Beakes Streets; thence in the Quaker Church, State and Lawrence Streets. First church building, on present site, dedicated 1869; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1877; brick veneer structure in Gothic style. First settled clergyman, Rev. Mr. Brooks, 1870-74. Present clergyman, Rev. J.W. Wright. See: Anon. "Negroes Formed Bethel Church," in Ann Arbor Daily News, May 19, 1936.

Register (baptisms, sessions, members, and deaths; also minutes and financial records), 1926-- , 14 vols. Sunday School records, 1934-- , 5 vols. Records kept in church rectory. Previous records could not be found.

12. ALLEN AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1865-- , 222 Franklyn St., Jackson, Jackson County.

Organized 1865. Services first held in an old blacksmith shop, old Hanna block; subsequently in fire house building on Jackson Street. Colored Wesleyan Methodist united with the Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church and present site was purchased. First church building, dedicated 1894; consecrated 1903; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1924; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Mr. Fassett. Present clergyman, Rev. Poke Walker Walls. See: William E. Harrison, History of the Allen A. M. E. Church, Jackson, 1938.

All church records are sent to the Mother Church in Philadelphia, Pa.

13. BETHEL A. M. E. CHURCH, 1867-- , Fourth and Farwell Sts., Saginaw, Saginaw County.

Organized 1867. Services first held in private homes. First church building, James Avenue and Weadock Street, dedicated 1877; frame structure. Second church building on former site, dedicated 1904; brick structure. Present church building, the former Methodist Protestant Church, dedicated 1930; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. A.H. Knight, 1880-82. Present clergyman, Rev. James A. Dean.

Church minutes, including Sunday School records, 1924-- , 4 vols., in custody of church clerk, Christina Goines, 1602 Congress St. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1932-- , 4 vols., in custody of Rev. James A. Dean, 1033 Farrell St. Financial records, 1932-- , 1 vol., in custody of secretary-treasurer, Pearl

Johnson, 406 Emerson St. Previous records could not be found.

14. EBENEZER TEMPLE, formerly Ebenezer African Church 1871--, 4225 Brush St., Detroit.

Organized 1871. Services first held in Cook's Hall, Prospect and Watson Streets. First church building, Calhoun Street, between Beaubien and St. Antoine Streets, dedicated 1872; frame structure. Second church building, purchased Second Congregational Chapel and removed same to a site adjacent to Calhoun Street church building, using former building for rectory; dedicated 1874; frame structure. Present church building (a former Jewish Synagogue), consecrated 1936; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. G.H. Ward, 1873-74. Present clergyman, Rev. George W. Baber. See: Herbert L. Dudley, "Historical Sketch," in Souvenir Ebenezer Temple, A. M. E. Church, 1872-1935, Detroit, 1935, 12 pp.

Church minutes, 1872--, 32 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1932--, 5 vols. Financial records, 1871--, 69 vols. Sunday School records, 1871--, 69 vols. Records kept in church study.

15. AFRICAN M. E. CHURCH, 1874--, 500 James St., Grand Rapids, Kent County.

Organized 1874 as a mission. Services first held in a hall on Ottawa Street. Merged with A. M. E. Zion Church, Thompson Court and Franklin Street, 1875. Subsequently purchased the old Dutch Schoolhouse, Commerce and Monroe Avenues; destroyed by fire 1882. Purchased and remodeled old blacksmith shop, Cherry and Commerce Streets, 1882. First church building, Cherry and Commerce Streets, dedicated 1883; frame structure. Second church building, Division and Cherry Streets, dedicated 1888; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1923; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Mr. Coates, 1878-79. Present clergyman, Rev. William H. Jones.

Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1923--, 1 vol., in custody of Carrol Brown, 719 Bates St. Financial records, incomplete, in custody of Rector, Rev. W.H. Jones, 508 James St. Other records destroyed by fire.

16. QUINN CHAPEL, 1875--, 119 E. Seventh St., Flint, Genesee County.

Organized 1875. Organized Vernon Chapel (see entry 36) for North End of City, 1923. Services first held in the home of Nancy West, Mill Street. First church building dedicated 1877; frame structure; demolished 1912, to be replaced by new edifice, dedicated 1922; enlarged 1932; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. John Ferguson, 1875. Present clergyman, Rev. M.R. Rhonence. See:

Rev. Seth Reed, "Historical Sketch," in The Golden Jubilee of Flint, Mich., 68 pp., in Flint Public Library.

Church minutes, 1933--, 2 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths; also financial records), 1933--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1933--, 1 vol. Records kept in church study. Other records could not be found.

17. CASS CIRCUIT, 1884--, S. O'Keefe St., Cassopolis
Cass County.

Organized 1884. Services first held in Myer's Hall, S. Broadway Street. First and present church building dedicated 1893; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. J.I. Hill, 1885-90. Present clergyman, Rev. David Houston.

Church minutes, 1930--, 4 vols., in custody of Nettie Garner, 159 S. O'Keefe St. Financial records, 1926-28, 4 envelopes, in custody of Perses McCoy, 206 N. Broadway St. Other records could not be found.

18. ALLEN CHAPEL, 1885--, Frank and Edwards Sts.,
Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo County.

Organized 1885. First church building, Pitcher and Water Streets; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1913; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Robinson Jefferies, 1914-19. Present clergyman, Rev. W.T. Alexander. See: Rev. John Davis, Directory of the Church, Kalamazoo, 1894.

Church minutes, including financial records, 1915--, 3 vols., in rectory, adjoining church building. Other records could not be found.

19. FRANKLIN CHAPEL, 1888--, 811 Sycamore St., Niles,
Berrien County.

Organized 1888. Services first held in rented halls. First and present church building dedicated 1888, in honor of Mrs. Franklin; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Cyrus F. Hill. Present clergyman, Rev. F.D. Byrd.

Church minutes, 1904--, 1 vol., in custody of Rev. F.D. Byrd, 807 Sycamore St. Financial records, 1904--, 1 vol., in custody of treasurer of Board of Trustees, Mrs. R.W. Gully, 516 Cass St. Sunday School records, 1904--, 1 vol., in custody of secretary, Norman Holiday, Ninth St. Other records could not be found.

20. UNION MEMORIAL CHURCH, 1890--, Bond and Colfax Sts.,
Benton Harbor, Berrien County.

Organized 1890. Services first held in Sweet Hall, Michigan Street. First church building on Eighth Street, dedicated 1891; frame structure; destroyed by fire. Second church building

on present site, dedicated 1911; frame structure; completely rebuilt and dedicated 1930; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Stephen Peakers, 1891-94. Present clergyman, Rev. E.B. William.

Church minutes, 1890--, 50 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1890--, 50 vols. Financial records, 1890--, 50 vols. Sunday School records, 1890--, 50 vols. Records kept in church office.

21. CAMPBELL CHAPEL, 1892--, 10679 Whittaker Rd.,
Whittaker, Washtenaw County.

Organized 1892. From 1892 to 1895 services held in a house purchased by congregation. Subsequently purchased present site, Abbot store. Services held there until present church building was dedicated 1897; remodeled 1937; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. George W. Benson, 1892-95. Present clergyman, Rev. A. Knowles.

Church minutes, 1892--, 2 vols., in custody of clerk, Guy Smith, R. 1, Milan, Michigan. Financial records, 1892--, 2 vols., in custody of treasurer, Allan Thompson, Whittaker. Other records could not be found.

22. HANDY HOME, 1905--, 1713 Lansing Ave., Jackson,
Jackson County.

Organized 1905 for aged colored people, by Partinia Wright, a deaconess of the A. M. E. Church. First and present building erected 1905; frame structure, named in honor of Bishop James Handy who donated the first five-hundred dollars toward its erection. First superintendent, Partinia Wright, 1905-29. Present superintendent, Rev. Poke W. Walls.

23. HOLY CHAPTER, 1908--, Coleman, Warren Township,
Midland County.

Organized 1908. Services first held in private homes. First and present church building dedicated 1910; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. S.W. Holly, 1908-10. Present clergyman, Rev. Thomas H. Smith.

Register (baptisms, marriages, and deaths; also minutes, financial records and Sunday School records), 1908--, 1 vol., in custody of secretary, H. Milburn, Coleman.

24. ST. PETER'S CHURCH, 1911--, Charest and Yemans Aves.,
Hamtramck, Wayne County.

Organized 1911. First church building, on site of present rectory, dedicated 1911; frame structure. Present church building consecrated 1917; remodeled 1923; frame structure in Colonial style. First settled clergyman, Rev. Thomas Ford, 1911-13.

Present clergyman, Rev. Jessie L. Moore.

Church minutes, 1931--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1911--, 1 vol. Records kept in rectory adjoining church. Other records could not be found.

25. QUINN CHAPEL, formerly Jackson Chapel, 1913--, MacKay and Holmes Aves., Hamtramck, Wayne County.

Organized 1913 as Jackson Chapel; present name adopted 1924. Services first held in a private home, Goodson Street. Present church building dedicated 1920; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. James Jackson, 1913-15. Present clergyman, Rev. Simeon H. Williams.

Church minutes, 1926--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1926--, 1 vol. Records kept in rectory adjoining church. Other records could not be found.

26. LEWIS CHAPEL, 1917--, Cass and Culver Sts., Albion, Calhoun County.

Organized as a community church 1917. Subsequently changed to present name and denomination. Services first held in private homes. First and present church building dedicated 1920; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Phidias D. Lewis, 1917-18. Present clergyman, Rev. Robert Elias Carr.

Church minutes, including financial records, 1929--, 1 vol., in custody of Rev. R.E. Carr, 107 Gale St. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1918--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1917--, 2 vols. Records kept in church study. Other records could not be found.

27. ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, 1917--, Jay and Chene Sts., Detroit.

Organized 1917 as a mission, admitted as a parish 1928. Services first held in a store, Mullett and Orleans Streets. First and present church building, purchased from Christian Reform Congregation, dedicated 1928; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. B. Evans, 1919-20. Present clergyman, Rev. James A. Charleston.

Church minutes, 1928--, 1 vol. Register (members and deaths, 1928--, 1 vol.; baptisms, 1927--, 1 vol.; marriages 1927-31, 1 vol., 1931--, included in pastor's record). Financial records, 1931--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1928--, 1 vol. Records kept in church rectory, 2616 Jay St.

28. ALLEN TEMPLE, 1918--, 1000 Marston Ave., Detroit.

Organized 1918. Services first held in a store, Holbrook Avenue and Russell Street. First and present church building consecrated 1934; frame structure. First settled

clergyman, Rev. G. Brenson, 1918-19. Present clergyman, Rev. Walter A. Crißer.

Church minutes, 1929--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, and marriages, 1929--, 1 vol.; members, 1931--, 1 vol.). Financial records, 1931--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, current only, 1 vol. Records kept in rectory, 1005 Melbourne Ave. Other records could not be found.

29. ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, 1918--, 6000 Stanford Ave., Detroit.

Organized 1918. First and present church building dedicated 1918; rebuilt 1927; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Thomas White, 1918-19. Present clergyman, Rev. John David Howell.

Church minutes: Board of Stewards, 1918--, 22 vols., in custody of secretary, J.C. Jones, 6511 Woodrow Ave.; Board of Trustees, 1918--, 8 vols., in custody of secretary, Emmanuel J. Irving, 5837 Begole St. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1918--, 4 vols., in custody of Rev. John David Howell, 6051 Whitewood Ave. Financial records: Board of Stewards, 1918--, 1 vol., in custody of treasurer, W.C. Johnson, 5715 Stanford Ave.; Board of Trustees, 1918--, 1 vol., in custody of treasurer, Jesse Slaughter, 6351 Whitewood Ave. Sunday School records, 1918--, 2 vols., in custody of Superintendent, Alberta L. Davis, 4721 Tireman Ave.

30. ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, 1919--, Trumbull and LaBelle Aves., Highland Park, Wayne County.

Organized 1919. First and present church building dedicated 1919; frame structure, mission type. First settled clergyman, Edgar B. Ferguson, 1919-23. Present clergyman, Rev. Mitchell Culpepper.

Church minutes, 1919--, 2 vols., in custody of secretary, Moses Simons, 1581 Ford St. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1919--, 5 vols., in custody of Rev. Mitchell Culpepper, 1670 LaBelle Ave. Financial records, 1919--, 1 vol., in custody of John Gist, 1515 LaBelle Ave.

31. ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, 1919--, 2918 Twenty-fifth St., Port Huron, St. Clair County.

Organized 1919. Services first held in private homes. First church building dedicated 1920; rebuilt 1921; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1929; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. L.L. Strickland, 1919-22. Present clergyman, Rev. Samuel C. Davis.

Church minutes, including financial records, 1919--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, and members), 1919--, 1 vol. Records kept in church office.

32. VINSON CHAPEL, formerly African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1920--, Robinson and Beyne Sts., Mt. Clemens, Macomb County.

Organized 1920 as African Methodist Episcopal Church; present name adopted 1922. Services first held in home of C.F. Turner, 81 Robinson Street. First and present church building dedicated 1922; cement block structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. N.C. Howel, 1922-24. Present clergyman, Rev. Moses Williams.

Church minutes, 1920--, 1 vol. Register (members only), 1920--, 1 vol., in custody of Norman Miles, 6 Barra St. Financial records, 1920--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1925--, 12 vols., in custody of Mrs. Morse, 46 Barber St.

33. ST. PAUL'S OF DELRAY, 1921--, 579 Rademacher Ave., Detroit.

Organized 1921. First church building dedicated 1921; frame structure. Present church building dedicated 1928; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. A.G. Davis, 1921-22. Present clergyman, Rev. William F. Rice.

Church minutes, 1935--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1935--, 1 vol. Financial records, 1935 --, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1935--, 1 vol. Records kept in rectory adjoining church.

34. GRANT CHAPEL (Mission), 1922--, 411 Fourth St., Three Rivers, St. Joseph County.

Organized 1922. Services first held in private cottages and in rented halls. First and present church building dedicated 1923; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Sylvester Waro, 1923-25. Present clergyman, Rev. P.R. James. See: Laura Swaine, "History of Grant Chapel," MS., 1930, kept in church rectory.

Church minutes, 1925--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1925--, 1 vol. Financial records, 1923--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1925--, 1 vol. Records kept in church rectory. Previous records could not be found.

35. TABERNACLE A. M. E. 1922--, Box 80, Idlewild, Baldwin, Lake County.

Organized 1922 as a non-denominational community church; admitted to the African Methodist Episcopal Conference, 1939. Services first held in a tent. First church building, demolished before completion; rebuilt 1925; dedicated 1928; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. H. Franklin Bray, 1922-39. Present clergyman, Rev. C.A. Craine.

Church minutes, 1922, 1 vol.; 1939--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1922, 1 vol.; 1939--, 1 vol. Financial records, 1939--, 1 vol. Sunday School records,

1939--, 1 vol. Records in custody of Minnie Kensey, Baldwin Road. Other records could not be found.

36. VERNON CHAPEL, 1923--, 3512 St. John St., Flint, Genesee County.

Organized 1923 as a branch of Quinn Chapel (see entry 16). Services first held in a private home; subsequently in a church on Hickory Street. First and present church building dedicated 1923; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. William Charleston, 1923-25. Present clergyman, Rev. James Aikens.

Church minutes, 1923--, 2 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1923--, 2 vols. Financial records, 1923--, 2 vols. Sunday School records, 1936--, 1 vol. Records kept in church study.

37. COMMUNITY A. M. E. CHURCH, 1924--, 613 Second St., Bay City, Bay County.

Organized 1924. Services first held in private homes. First and present church building, frame structure, includes pastor's residence. First settled clergyman, Rev. Charles F.H. Banbury, 1924-25. Present clergyman, Rev. Walter E. Smith.

Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths; also minutes), 1936--, 1 vol. Financial records, 1936--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1936--, 1 vol. Records kept in church study.

38. ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, 1924--, Kentucky Ave. and Chippewa St., Detroit.

Organized 1924. First church building dedicated 1924; frame structure; destroyed by fire 1925. From 1925 to 1927 services were held in rented halls. Present church building dedicated 1927; remodeled 1930; brick structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. M.S. Pearson, 1924-29. Present clergyman, Rev. William E. Walker.

Church minutes, 1924--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1924--, 1 vol. Financial records, 1924--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1924--, 1 vol. Records kept in church study.

39. ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, 1924--, Oakdale Blvd. and Pearl St., Roseville, Macomb County.

Organized 1924. Services first held in private homes. First and present church building dedicated 1925; cement block structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. Isaiah Snelling, 1932-36. Present clergyman, Rev. Thomas Henry Smith.

Church minutes, 1924--, 2 vols., in custody of C.P. Buxton, 25134 Pinehurst Ave., Detroit. Register (baptisms, marriages,

members, and deaths), 1938--, 1 vol., in custody of Rev. Thomas Henry Smith, 6090 Begole St., Detroit. Financial records, 1924--, 1 vol., in custody of treasurer, James Davis, 17625 E. Ten Mile Rd. Sunday School records, 1924--, 1 vol., in custody of Superintendent H.B. Hershey, 560 Leland St., Detroit.

40. SMITH CHAPEL, 1925--, Irene St., between Oak and Maple Sts., Inkster, Wayne County.

Organized 1925. First and present church building dedicated 1925; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. William Brown, 1925-26. Present clergyman, Rev. A.D. Evans.

Church minutes, 1925--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1925--, 1 vol. Financial records, 1925--, 2 vols. Sunday School records, 1925--, 15 vols. Records in custody of rector, Rev. A.D. Evans, 3274 Isabella St., Inkster.

41. VERNON CHAPEL, 1925--, 18500 Norwood Ave., Detroit.

Organized 1925. Services first held in a private home, Stockton and Norwood Avenues. First and present church building dedicated 1928; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. L. Dailie, 1925-31. Present clergyman, Rev. L.B. Johnson.

Church minutes, 1932--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths; also financial records), 1932--, 1 vol. Records kept in rectory. Other records could not be found.

42. CAREY CHAPEL, formerly A. M. E. Zion Church, 1927--, 119 Almyra Ave., Monroe, Monroe County.

Organized as A. M. E. Zion Church, 1927; present name adopted 1930. Services first held in rented halls and private homes. First and present church building dedicated 1932; frame structure in Gothic style. First settled clergyman, Rev. C.H. Campbell. Present clergyman, Rev. Isaiah Snelling.

Church minutes, 1927--, 13 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1927--, 13 vols. Financial records, 1927--, 13 vols. Records kept in church study. Sunday School records, 1927--, 13 vols., in custody of Sunday School secretary.

43. ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, 1927--, River Rouge, Wayne County.

Organized 1927. First and present church building consecrated 1927; frame structure. First settled clergyman, Rev. W.A. Thomas, 1927-29. Present clergyman, Rev. Nelson Pryor.

Church minutes, 1927--, 13 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1927--, 13 vols. Sunday School records, 1927--, 13 vols. Records in custody of Rev. Nelson Pryor, 478 Holford St. Other records could not be found.

44. TRINITY MISSION, 1930--, 5430 Roosevelt Ave., Detroit.

Organized 1930. Services first held in a private home, 5427 Roosevelt Avenue. First and present church building dedicated 1931; frame structure, first floor used for services, upper floor, for parsonage. First settled clergyman, Rev. Thomas J. White, 1930-35. Present clergyman, Rev. Robert A. Schley.

Church minutes, 1930--, 2 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1930--, 3 vols. Financial records, 1930--, 1 vol. Records kept in parsonage, 5432 Roosevelt Ave.

45. STEPHEN'S TABERNACLE, 1932--, 18431 Fleming Ave., Detroit.

Organized 1932. Merged with New Hope Church (see entry 46), 1939. Services first held in store building, Grant and Goddard Avenues. Present church building dedicated 1934; frame structure, upper floor used for parsonage. First and present clergyman, Rev. Thomas J. Stephens, 1932--.

Church minutes, 1932--, 1 vol. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1932--, 1 vol. Financial records, 1932--, 1 vol. Sunday School records, 1932--, 1 vol. Records kept in rectory, 13960 St. Aubin Ave.

46. NEW HOPE CHURCH (defunct through merger), 1933-39, Foster St. and Le Grand Ave., Detroit.

Organized 1933 as a mission. Merged with Stephen's Tabernacle (see entry 45), 1939. Services first held in Liberty Baptist Church, 6331 E. Varney Street, moved to 6339 E. Varney St., 1936. First settled clergyman, Rev. W.A. Turner, 1933-34. Last clergyman, Rev. James E. Jackson, 1938-39.

Church minutes including financial records, 1933-39, 4 vols. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1933-39, 1 vol. Records kept in rectory of Stephen's Tabernacle (see entry 45).

47. PARK'S MEMORIAL CHURCH, 1937--, Romulus, Wayne County.

Organized 1937. Services being held in homes of members. First and present minister-in-charge, Rev. Jacob Preston Hutchins, 1937--.

Church minutes, 1937--, 1 vol., in custody of secretary, Alma Frazier, Whitehorn St. Register (baptisms, marriages, members, and deaths), 1937--, 1 vol., in custody of Rev. Jacob Preston Hutchins, 5794 Beechwood St., Detroit. Financial records, 1937--, 1 vol., in custody of treasurer, Lewis Lane, Gabriel St. Sunday School records, 1937--, 1 vol., in custody of school Superintendent, I.T. Clark, Gabriel St.

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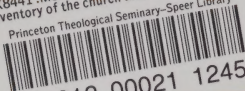
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2. Minutes of the Meetings of the Village Council of Hamtramck, Michigan, 1901-05

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